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## Before the FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION Washington, DC 20554

July 27, 2017

Re: GN Docket No. RM-11791

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing on behalf of MetaLINK Technologies, Inc. (MetaLINK) to express our support for the Commission to authorize and facilitate a new, licensed wireless point-to-multipoint high-speed broadband service on a shared basis in the underutilized 3700-4200 MHz band.

MetaLINK is a rural regional fixed broadband provider with service offerings in Northwest Ohio, Northeast Indiana, and Southern Michigan. Founded in 1996 as a dial-up Internet service provider (ISP), over the years we have transitioned our network to provide broadband Internet via fixed wireless and today serve over 8,500 customers. What we need today is dedicated, affordable, renewable spectrum for small rural provider's and the 3700-4200 MHz band promises the potential to help close the digital divide. When the FCC first started discussions of 25Mbps x 3Mbps being the definition of Broadband we started building our backbone to handle such customer traffic. We are proud to say that we were offering 25Mbps x 3Mbps service in 2016 prior to the CAF awards to ILEC's for 10Mbps x 1Mbps service. Spamming the gap to bring high-speeds to rural America.

The problem that we have been facing in the unlicensed bands is coverage limitations and increased congestion which hinders the ability to serve everyone with the faster speeds that they are requesting. A licensed frequency with the capabilities of enabling gigabit and near-gigabit fixed wireless Internet service at distances of five miles or more is desperately needed in rural America. The need for a protected licensed spectrum is necessary to ensure quality of service which is near impossible to manage and guarantee in the unlicensed spectrum. The 3700-4200 MHz band must be affordable to the small rural provider to purchase in order to ensure a competitive market and quick deployment.

Again, to reiterate, we support the petition and I feel comfortable in saying that businesses and residence in our coverage area would agree. Customers in rural America need to have the choice of providers and the providers need to have the ability to affordably offer competitive services to enhance the broadband Internet experience which cities are offering to their customers today. Please allow us the opportunity to provide these services by approving this petition and by moving forward quickly and expeditiously.

Sincerely,

**Todd Harpest** 

Regulatory Manager